

MONDAY, JANUARY 31, 1881.

Amusements To-Day.

Abbey's Park | bestre-Diretta Academy of Design Ethilities. Argen etern Cit us. Mat me. fronth's Theatre-Gadator. Il jon Opera House-Our Boarding Rosse. B Jon Opera House, On Bearing Ross.
Fromkly n Park I benefit Al 10 Bags.
Fromkly Numeron Brokeway and 9th th
Didge Theatre James
Grand Opera House Outh
River yo Litch St. 1b-atre—The Galley Siars. Maxeely's 5th Av. Theatre-Oracle Havert 's Nibra's Gorden-Back Years Ravely's Theatre, Brooklyn TheFrafts Wall Roster & Bial's Concert Hall-Concert, Madison Square Forator Hall Concert, Manuale Temple Mercerien. Medileton's frime Museum-700 Rowery. Navelty Theatre, fromkly . E. D .- Photos Nam Francisco Minetrels. Brandway and 29th st.

Standard Frenter Druk 2 talin Theatre Ture Pair Shees. Theatre Consigner Mullian Stands Nomines Tony Pattor's Theatre Verlety. I nion Square Theatre-Tie Creek. Wallack's Theatre-school for readal. Mindsor Theatre-Tie Stock.

The regular circulation of THE SUN for the week ending Jan. 29, 1881, was: 118,274 Wenkly 113,615 Thursday 113,837 Friday 116,140 Saturday 116,224 115,592 117,011

Difficulties Reported.

It is reported from Washington that some opposition is manifested to the confirmation of Mr. JAY GOULD under the name of Mr STANLEY MATTHEWS as a Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Precisely how serious this opposition is does not yet appear. It is possible that the movement to place Mr. Gould upon the Supreme Court bench may be foiled. This would be a profound humiliation to him, and it might to some extent interfere with the execution of some of those immense and far-reaching schemes for adding to his millions and his power with which his fertile mind is continually teeming.

But, for our part, we confess that we do not anticipate Mr. Gotto's defeat. The forces and influences that are enlisted in his favor are great and zealous; while the antagonism that is cherished against aim is limited, and, for the most part, merely theoretical. We expect, accordingly, to see him succeed, though at the same time we should regard his defeat as an ocension for public gratitude.

What is probable is that these mighty corporation schemes and schemers will go on from success to success until the people, aroused to the public danger, determine that it shall be otherwise and crush them to pieces.

Political Storms Ahead.

When THE SUN originally announced that Mr. BLAINE would be Secretary of State, the GARFIELD organs denied the fact by pretended authority, and said he was going to Europe in the spring. When THE SUN announced that Allison would ge into the Treasury, the CONKLING organs contradicted the prediction flatly, the wish with them being father to the thought. When THE SUN announced that CHARLES FOSTER would go into the Interior or Post Office Department, at his discretion, as the result of the bargain by which John Sherman reenters the Senate, the organs of both these factions joined in an unqualified denial of

that statement. These forecasts have not yet come to pass, it is true, but they are all booked for the fourth of March, with BLAINE for Secretary of State, ALLISON Secretary of the Treasury, and Foster Postmaster-General-This combination leaves the GRANT leaders entirely out in the cold, or compels them to accept subordinate places under the new regime. By a natural law the Interior Department goes West, and if that law should be followed by GARFIELD, there would remain but the War and Navy and the At torney-Generalship for Mr. CONKLING to choose from, as his measure of recognition for having elected the President.

Wall he be satisfied with these leavings Will his followers be satisfied? That is the question which now most exercises politiciens all over the country. It is an open secret that Mr. Conkland expected to have the Treasury placed at his disposal, especially after BLAINE had been offered the place of Premier, as Schator BECK calls the post of Secretary of State. That offer would doubtless have soothed our Senator's wounded pride at not being consuited about BLAINE's selection; and in the public view it would have put the two great rivals on an equal footing. The Treasury would be worth more to Mr. CONELING for local use and effect than all the other departments combined. But it is settled the Treasury is to go West, and that decision contains the germs of a conflict that may

disrupt the Republican party. Although there would be but limited sympathy with Mr. CONKLING if he factiously provoked a quarrel with the Administration from the outset, the case is reversed when the new Administration wilfully provokes a quarrel with him by deliberate disparagement. It cannot be denied that without his particular aid, backed as it was by the presence and the performance of Gen GRANT at the pinch of the campaign when the outlook was darkest, GanFinn would not have been elected. That is a fixed fact.

The Republicans everywhere admit this fact, and avow their gratitude for the service rendered. They expected, of course, that Mr. CONKLING would be fully considered, in making up the new Administration, as at the very head of the list. Whatever they may think of him personally, they are not willing to see him slighted, shubbed, and humiliated by the advancement of interior men, whose chief merit is that they belong to an opposing faction in the party, This feeling of sympathy will be strength ened by the hostility of the departing Administration toward him in the removal from office of his few remaining friends in the closing days of power. That exhibition of meanness and malice will disgust many who have no haing for the ways of the

Mr. CONKLING has shrewdly remained possive and silent while these things have been going on, though by no means a careless observer of every incident. He has purpenely hept out of controversy, and held his cougue white quietly fortifying his position. He has had no correspondence with GAR-TIBLE. Hocadwice has not been asked, and

it has not seen characted. The Stalwaits do not take the situation kindly. They have beretofore repressed recentment, under orders. But since they have lest the Treasury, and been told to take seats at the second table, patience no longer possesses their souls. See how their Washington organ emption its viais of wrath on the offending heads.

The la pulliper party some to be divided into two iks it ought to achieve victor while the other throke it was nest thrave on defeat. The

other. We warn the President elect against this pestilent tribe. Assuming, though they do, all the political virtue extant, he will find by and by, if he does not know it now, that they are the basest of hypocrites and the

most dishonest of men."

"The corrupt and rotten crew which we have but fee-bly described have done much toward disintegrating the party since its grand triumph in November. No artia left unpracticed to alienate from the incoming Administration the men who are regarded as the especial Triends of Gen. Geart. The daily gossip is full of pretented in-formation which, if half of it were true, would consign the new President to intamy and the party to the tumb. "The party ship is drifting on to a lee shore, and will soon be beached, unless muttuy and greed are throttled

These are the first loud mutterings of the coming storm, and they are caused by the knowledge that the reins of the next Administration are to be in the hands of BLAINE. and that the machine is to be run against Mr. CONKLING. The Plumed Knight made a positive condition, in accepting the diplomatic portfolio, that New York should not have the Treasury, Mr. CONKLING was thereby excluded from equality and from power. He was virtually told to take what he could get or to take himself off

GARFIELD is bound hand and foot to this bargain. There is no retreat open to him now. He is forced to go forward, and every step he takes will bristle with danger.

The Defeat in the Drakenberg.

The repulse of Gen. Sir G. Colley's column by the Boers in the narrow Drakenberg pass, near the head waters of Buffalo River, may arouse the British people to the character of the task they have undertaken in attempting to subjugate the Transvaal. The fundamental error of British policy in South Africa is the assumption that a government never can afford to admit that it has made a mistake. Mr. GLADSTONE, while

speaking in not unfriendly terms of the Trausvaal people in the House of Commons yet insisted, as a matter of course, that the first thing to be done was to reestablish the authority of Great Britain throughout the disaffected region.

Why is that the first thing to be done? This is the same view that our own Government takes in dealing with a tribe of Indians driven to revolt by that Government's own injustice. It is a view suited to the dark ages rather than to these days of supposed enlightenment and popular freedom. It proceeds from the absurd theory that the King can do no wrong. It is based on the supposition that it is dangerous or unwise for any government to begin by acknowledging that it is in error.

Public opinion condemns the strong man vho, when his tyranny has forced a weak eighbor to turn on him, beats that neighbor inmercifully as the first thing to be done Why should a government, which is only a ollection of men, be judged by any different standard? To say that it is necessary to show that Great Britain is the stronger, is puerile; for nobody pretends that this little South African territory is a match for Eng-

The Transvaal was annexed on the suppo sition that it desired to be annexed. The information obtained or given by Sir The-OPHILUS SHEPSTONE on this point has now been shown to be false. Why, then, should untold blood and treasure be spent to per petuate an admitted error? It is said that the Boers do wrong to revolt. How so The brightest pages in the history of Great Britain are those of revolts against tyranny Why should that be punished in Boers which is praised in Britons?

The notion that the first duty of a government, when its authority is resisted, is to enforce that authority, at any cost, is a relic of barbarism. Its first duty is to find out whether its authority can lawfully, rightfully, and wisely be enforced. The Boers have for three years sought, by peaceful appeals, to procure the undoing of that absorption which they had meant to be only mutual alliance. At last they are driven to take up arms, to show more plainly their desire to recover their lost independence.

Their first step was to surround the British garrisons in the Transvaal terrinext, to march against the force sent from | confidence as regards the future. Capa Town to relieve the garrisons. This force was that of Sir George Colley. which was allowed to pass without hindrance through the greater part of the mountain region that divides Natal from the Transvaal, and was then opposed at the northerly entrance, just where his column would have debouched on the open fields beyond. The expeditionary force, which consisted mainly of the Fifty-eighth foot, a brigade from the ships, a battery of artillery, and a squadron or two of cavalry, was completely repulsed by Boers armed with

rifles and shotguns only. It is thought that Gen. COLLEY's force is in danger. It cannot be, provided it retreats promptly the way it came. The Transvaniers have never shown any disposition to fight for more than the integrity of their own land. It is doubtful whether they could be led toward Cape Town even by military success. But the British garrisons in theh country are undoubtedly in danger, and the fall of either of them will give the Boers some much-needed artitlery. The immediate question is whether the garrisons can hold out until the arrival of the British reenforcements now on the way.

The Growth of Catholicism in England.

That the number of Roman Catholics in England has signally increased during the last quarter of a century is taken for granted, but definite data on the subject have hitherto been wanting. That want has now been met by statistics collected for the Tablet, and published with the beginning of the present year.

Before comparing the present state of the Roman Church in England with its condition in 1850, the Tablet gives some curious figures showing the number of English Catholies at previous epochs. In 1635, for instance, the adherents of the Papacy in England were computed at 150,000, but there are said to have been at the same time nearly 800 priests. There is reason to be lieve that in 1773 the number of the laity had increased but little, if at all, while that of the clergy had greatly fallen off. The improvement began when the penal laws against Romanism were abolished. Thus in the period between the date last mentioned and 1804 the Catholics in Lancashire and increased from 14,000 to 50,000, while in the London district, which included a large part of the south of England, they advanced from 25,000 to upward of 68,000.

In 1850, when Pres IX, established a new Roman Catholic hierarshy in England, there were eight diocesan bishops, 526 priests, and 507 churches. It will be observed that the number of priests at this time was little larger than that returned for 1615, and must therefore have been markedly inadequate to the greatly augmented Catholic population. In 1880, on the other hand, there were fourteen Bishops, 1,175 churches and chapels, and 1,962 priests. Moreover, the number of convents, or religious houses for men, had risen in the same thirty years from 17 to 134, the number of religious orders now represented in England having increased from 10 to 26. As regards the number of the laity,

million, while in the whole of England the Catholics cannot fall short of a million and a quarter. Of course, the main source of these accessions is the Irish immigration into the large English towns; but there is no doubt that conversions, numerically as well as socially considerable, are being made from the higher classes of the English people. The precise volume of the additions from this quarter the Tablet does not attempt to determine; but we think some light might have been thrown on it by reference to the large number of expensive Catholic schools intended, and in many instances well qualified, to furnish a uni-

When we turn from figures setting forth the absolute gains of Romanism in England and seek to compare them with the signs of growth in other denominations, no exhaustive and trustworthy information is forthcoming. According to the estimate published in WHITAKER'S Almanae, in 1880 there were 23,000 clergymen of every class, including stipendiary curates, in 'the Church

of England; and although the number of buildings is not stated, there are said to be about 6,000,000 sittings available. Now, the religious statistics officially collected on the census Sunday in 1851, and digested by Mr. Horack MANN, stated the number of Anglican clergymen in England at 17,320, and the number of church sittings at about 5,318,000. Here the increase in the extent of church accommodation and in the number of the clergy is slight when compared with the prog-

ress of Romanism during the same period. As to the Protestant Dissenters from the Established Church, such imperfect data as we have indicate a positive falling off. There were in 1851, according to Mr. MANN's estimate, which nenconformists have always insisted upon treating as authentic, 20,300 Dissenting chapels in England. But, according to the list of places of meeting for religious worship, certifled to the Registrar-General in 1876, the number of Dissenting chapels was then only 18,723. That the latter list was comprehensive enough may be inferred from the fact that it includes such places as school rooms, club rooms, temper ance halls, music halls, bakeries, malt kilns, &c., temporarily hired for religious ourposes. Of Dissenting chapels licensed for marriages there are only 8,413, and these figures probably cover all the more important and durable buildings.

It is significant, as showing the confidence of Catholics in the reality of the progress made by their Church in England, that no objection to a religious census has ever ome from them. They seem to be no less willing than the members of the Anglican Establishment that every individual in England should be officially questioned as to the religious faith professed. If we accept the statistics of the Tablet as a close approximation to the truth, it is clear enough that Romanists in England have nothing to lose by a Government enumeration, while, as compared with Protestant Dissenters, they have probably much to gain.

It is reported in the columns of our esteemed contemporary, the Herald, that there is in Washington "some quiet talk of a coalition between the Democrats and the Greenbackers, in which the Democrats are to drop their party name." "The result of the Presidential election," says the same writer, "has had a singularly disheartening effect on the Democrats in Congress."

As for the Democrats in Congress, we confess that we are not able to hold the whole mass of them in as high esteem as they probably hold themselves. There are great and patriotic men among them; but at the same time there are also great fools and men devoted to public plunder. This sort of cattle are naturally discouraged at the result of the Presidential election. They wanted offices, and they can't get any. But the Democratic party is not made up of such; and, in truth, we have never seen it tory, and call for their surrender; their in a state of greater encouragement and

As for combining with the Greenbackers, that is too ridiculous to be seriously consid-

Reject It!

This week the Senate will probably act ipon Stanley Matthews's nomination to be a Justice of the Supreme Court. The Democrats in the Senate have the power to reject it. Unless some of them are bought or befooled into doing a disgraceful thing they will reject it. No regard for the logrolling tradition known as the courtesy of the Senate should interfere with their duty to the country. Let the courtesy of the Senate go to the dogs, if need be, but keep this person off the bench.

Reject STANLEY MATTHEWS because, in point of intellect, he is utterly unfit to be a Judge. Old HANNIBAL HAMLIN would make a more respectable figure in the Supreme

Court. Reject him because he is morally disqualified from giving a judicial opinion in any case where the interests of the people con flict with the interests of certain great rail

way corporations and railway grandees. Reject him because his appointment is in tself a shameless thing, being the last in-

rendered to HAYES four years ago. The Democrats in the Senate cannot afford to become parties to a transaction of this

stallment of his fee for dishonorable services

The various projects for fixing the number of Representatives in Congress, under the new census, at 293, 300, 301, 311, 319, 325, 340, and so on, seem to depend for their fate very much on the views of Congressmen how their respective States will fare under any given number. And it is much to be feared that the question will be settled not on the basis of what the public good demands, but by the fact that some particular scheme may manage to secure a combination of supporters who are satisfied that plan, and so will unite to carry it through.

Mr. Dawes has introduced into the Senate a bill to carry out in part the recommendations of the Ponca Commission by giving the Poncas the privilege of returning to their Dakota reservation if they wish. The bill recites, as its origin, the fact found by the Commission, that the Government had greatly wronged the Poncas. Some of Cant Schunz's mouthpieces nocordingly sneer at this as " a bill to make a numble apology." Very well; it is precisely because Cana Schunz cannot make an apology and repair an error, when he is proved to be wrong, that he has put our country in the position of a wilful branker of a solemn contract.

Judge Osnorne's decision declaring Witt-LIAM L. THORNTON'S election to the office of County Judge of Suilivan County void, on account of his promise to serve for less than the salary allowed by law, follows in the wake of a decision rendered not long ago in a similar ease in one of the Western States. The same question was raised also in San Francisco where the workingmen's candidates for the leading municipal offices had taken a public pledge in the conventions of their party to return fixed percentages of the statutory salaries to the city treasury. After their election a proceeding to have them ousted former are called Statuarts, and the latter Reformers. It is estimated by the Tablet that in Lanca-former are called Statuarts, and the latter Reformers. It is estimated by the Tablet that in Lanca-former are called Statuarts, and the latter Reformers. It is estimated by the Tablet that in Lanca-former are called Statuarts, and the latter Reformers. It is estimated by the Tablet that in Lanca-former are called Statuarts, and the latter Reformers. It is estimated by the Tablet that in Lanca-former are called Statuarts, and the latter Reformers. It is estimated by the Tablet that in Lanca-former are called Statuarts, and the latter Reformers.

soon after its inception; and they then showed their recognition of the illegality of their pledge by repudiating it and taking the full salaries. It the Sullivan County case THORNTON offered to serve for \$1,200 and to return \$1,300 of the lawful salary to the public treasury. This Judge Osnonne considers bribery, and as equivalent to saying to every taxpayer, "If you vote for me. I will give you so much," Had the election, no power could have prevented his

ably large. This case recalls also that of the Brooklyn man who was elected to flit a vacancy for an un-expired term in the Board of Aldermen of that city, and who, prior to the election, had promised to pay the salary of the position to the widow of the deceased official. That, however, was a different case. The promise there was not to pay the money into the treasury, and it could not have been construed as a bribe to the taxpayers, though it might have been improper on other grounds.

What with the French Cooks' ball, the Charity ball, the Children's ball, the Martha Washington ball, the Liederkranz ball, and the Arion ball, now coming in quick succession, and many other balls only less in splender interspersed, the fun of dancers and masqueraders will be fast and furious betwixt this and Lent.

Excellent and unprecedented as were the scores of last week's foot race, it is, after all, rather an absurd style of performance for so many people to get excited over. A six-day goas-you-please has become a contest of sheer endurance rather than of skill and grace in pedestrianism. The men who can go longest without rest and sleep, no matter how they humn and hitch around the track, are likely to be among the prize winners. Admiration for the beautiful as well as sturdy walking of a HART or an O'LEARY is very well deserved; but it is hardly worth while going into ecstasies over shambling, limping walkers, without poise, without form or grace of motion, some wabbling and others full of clownish antics. But the greatest number of miles in a given number of hours is now the object of ambition. and taking that as the standard for applause, i is certainly extraordinary that five men last week scored upward of 515 miles, three of them upward of 550, and one more than 568.

Droughts having done their share of destruction in Europe in times not long past, deluges are taking their turn. Spain is inundated; and in Holland famous and costly diker have been broken for the first time in many years.

Nothing has since been heard of the panic the city of Sheffield was in, the other day, owing to the arrival there of two hundred strangers supposed to be Fenians. Whether the authoriies followed these two hundred visitors about the streets, and found them to be harmless, or whether, as in the story of the three black crows, the two hundred turnedfout to be two, that only looked like Fentans, the alarm seems to have subsided. These periodic frights of English cities suggest that England may be in almost as bad a way as Ireland. All over England they seem to be drawing the garrisons in out of harm's way, and even in some places taking the locks off the rifles, lest they be seized. But how about the cannon? Do they spike them?

The eagerness with which Lieut.-Gen SECRELEFF has been promoted to be General, almost as soon as his despatches arrived aniouncing the taking of Geok-Tepe indicates not only an appreciation of him, but how good an advertisement he is thought to be of Russian military prowess. What can be said of him is that he succeeded where LOMAKIN had failed.

In these degenerate days it is consoling to learn that on Saturday night an Ineffable and Sublime Grand Lodge of Perfection met at Albany, where the fourteenth degree of perfection was worked in full form by the officers of a New York city Lodge of Perfection.

HANLAN must be disgusted, by this time, at the delays that sculling is heir to. His longdrawn contest with Countries was exasperating to any ordinary temper; and now he is enduring the vexation of another postponed race. It was proposterous to fla such a race for midwinter. But the ways of British aquatic sports are past fathoming. This long postponement also v silely wears out popular patience and inmonotonous story of the training, in the rowing slang which it acquires on occasions, reporting from time to time that "Hankan did two good spins yesterday," or something of the sort.

Now that the ice houses are nearly or quite all crowded full, there is plenty more to be had, and an ice season in prospect for weeks to come. Three millions of tons harvested on fluous, even were there houses to store it in. It s hard to see on what plea anything but low prices can be expected next summer.

The bill for the establishment of a bureau of animal industry and for the suppression and promotion of contagious diseases among domestic animals has been favorably reported in the United States Senate. It is strange that a desirable thing cannot be done without creating a new bureau to do it.

The latest phase of Ohiolsm is the alleged raffle going on between HAYES and GARFIELD for the offices under their respective disposals. In the nature of the case, the evidence of this trafile can only be complete when Haves of Ohio shall have gone out of the White House and GARLIELD of Ohlo shall have gone in. HAYES'S part of the apparent contract, however, is already being performed. Major Swaim, for example, is Gampiel b's close personal friend, to whom he has been under obligations, and, as if to oblige Garriello and to save him from the appearance of favoritism, Haves has removed Judge Advocate-General DUNN and put him on is retired hat with three-fourths pay, and has imped Major and Judge Advocate Swain over he heads of six seniors in the Bureau of Millitary Justice into the coveted vacancy. What is o be GARFIELD's payment for this favor? One umor is that he will shelve Surgeon-General BARNES and put Haven's family physician, ledical Purveyor HANTER, into the vacancy. In that case each Ohioan would attempt to cover up the other's use of the office of President for personal favoritism in the army.

The Danger of Gen. Grant's Leaving New

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Unless the copie of this town do something generous for the irant there is danger that he may go somewhere else to

In the torcible language of the gallant and patriotic fack Logan, who is said to have held commissions on both sides in the civil war, Why should this mighty metropolis higgle over detaile? While we are higgling rant may quietly pack his carpet-bag and leave us for EThere is a tract of unoccupied ian I bounded by the Fifth

five pullion duller house were erected where the Belvin ere tower new stands, and a high wall were built all around the lot to keep the rainle out, the residence would be a desirable one, and Grant might be persuaded The annual value of the malt ligners manufactured

err may be put in round figures at \$12,080,080, the to seen and cizar manufactories produce \$15,080,000 more A direct tax of ten per cent, on the local products of these industries might be beyond for the hero's benefit. It would yield him an income of at least \$2,000,000, on

Which he could combing also hee.

Whatever is done night to be done quickly. Any day may find burn taking the train for some other city. X. What Mr. George Jones has Done for Gen.

From the Tomes.

The New York Times fund, without any aid on Philadelphia or Boston, has all but reached the con in lated amount of \$250 too, and no subscriber has ex given with the declared purpose of providing an annuity

A MONTH OF SUN STORMS.

This has been a stormy month on the sun. Tempests powerful enough to sweep every living thing from the face of the earth have spent their force upon the great glowing orb and their effects have been visible at the dis-tance of ninety odd million miles. Those who have not looked at the sun through a telescope Mr. THORNTON not made the promise prior to since 1878, when its broad disk was as free from spots as the polished gold case of a watch. serving for as little as he pleased afterward. It | would be astonished at the change in its telescopic appearance. It is now like the shield of is not certain, however, that in that event he would have considered the salary so unreasona warrior, dented and pierced by many flerce strokes. On some days an opera glass powerful enough to define the curve of an actress's eyebrow has sufficed to show the dark nucleus of a solar cyclone. Spots larger than this earth have appeared and vanished. Day after day the whole surface of the sun has been mottled and wrinkled under the strain of forces so tremendous that in comparison with them the

strength of a volcano seems puny. The spots have gone trooping across the disk, with the revolution of the mighty globe, in groups and rows, singly and in pairs. Huge groups have been seen to split up, smaller spots have been formed and destroyed in a few hours Whother, as some have supposed, these spots are caused by the fall of enormous meteoric masses upon the sun, or are produced by the up-rush or down-rush of gaseous matter, or are the result of both these causes, the effect upon the observer is the same. He cannot escape the impression that the great fireball he is looking at is the sport of elemental forces of the most gigantic power and activity.

There have been only three clear days during January when, with an ordinary spyglass, the sun's disk appeared unspotted. These sun storms are not likely to decrease in fury for me years yet. The new spot period is just beginning, and before it passes astronomers hope to have learned far more about this interesting and puzzling subject than they know now. The weight of evidence shows that there is a close relation between the condition of the sun and the earth's meteorology. Hundreds of telescopes are daily turned upon the sun from all quarters of the earth, and careful records of observations are kept. There has been a vast advance in our knowledge of the great luminary since the second Herschel suggested, only some twenty years ago, that the curious bright spots in the sun known as willow leaves might e gigantic living beings, whose intense vitality made them glow so dazzlingly. Yet what has been learned is slight in comparison with what remains to be learned.

LIGHT ON A PUBLIC MYSTERY. Jay Gould and His Two New York papers-Both Daily.

From the Oshkook Speciator NEW YORK, Jan. 26.-One of the most intering features of the present times is the ownership o wo great daily newspapers in this city by the mosrigantic stock operator and speculator in general who

has ever appeared in our country.

These two daily newspapers are the Tribnas, Republican, founded by Horace Greeley, and the Wield, Demoeratic, tounded by an association of orthodox Christians or the purpose of treating public questions on orthodox bristian principles. Now, Jay Gould owns both of these sewspapers and directs their conflicting opinions The Tobuse (Republican) Mr. Gould acquired shortly

after the death of its immented founder, taking it from the late William Orton, who had bought it. The World he became the owner of something less than a year ago when he took off Col. Tom Scott's hands a large of varied property that the Colonel no longer had use for, the Texas Pacific Hailroad and the World newspaper Democratic) forming the two principal items.

Ever since Mr. Gould has been the proprietor of the Testure, Mr. Whitelaw Reid (or, as Gen. Grant has always called him. Mr. Whitelie Heid) has been his editor. With Beid, Gould has no personal sympathy. Reid is too much of a fancy man, too conceited, too great a humbug too airy, and too little endowed with common sense louid despises him, and only keeps him on because it is nore convenient than to turn him off.

A report has got around lately that Gould had helped Boid to make vast sums in the stock market, and that Reid had used these sums of money to buy out Gould's control of the Tribune. This is not so. There is no trutl in it. Reid has got such stories started once or twi-but they have always been lies; and there is just as lit rath in this last one as there was in the other, that Wil ham Walter Phelps had put up the big pile of money necessary to withdraw the T-thuse from the despots nership of the great stock cambler The fact is that Gould has allowed Reid a chance in

some small speculations, out of which he has made about ten thousand dollars, and that is all.

With Mr. Hurlbert, en the other hand, the editor of the World (Democratic), Mr. Gould has the most entire sympa thy. The communications between them are as frequent and as cordial as ever occurred between the most arient friends. They see each other constantly, and exchange notes at the rate of half a dozon in a day. Mr. Gould finds in Haribert what he is, a bright, witty, accomplished but making life varied and agreeable. In this state of things Mr. Hurlbert is rapidly advancing in fortune while his Republican colleague is hardly any richer than quering millionaire. Jay Gould is a pretty smart man, and he knows how to choose his editors as well as his mends and intimates.

But it is a strange novelty, this owning of two large newspapers by a great manipulator of the stock market and of legislation. The two together stand Mr. Gould in about a million

nd a quarter of dollars-direct dividends, so far, nichis, indirect dividends enormous. Axe-Handle Smith's Old Society.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: An interesting contest is going on at present among the old ship-yard mechanics regarding the Presidency of the Old Gang. The Old Gang is an ancient society which had its first inception in 1807 at the Smith A Dimon yard, foot of Fourth street, where the old mechanics bell is at present Many illustrious names, such as Henry Eckford, Bergh, Villiams, the elder Webb, Ficket, Ricard, and other shipwrights of the past have appeared upon the rolls of this be powerful body. Age-handle Smith was an honored inher of the society, and was its President and chapin-the latter at the time of his death. The late Harry Benscoten, who died last year, was its last President nd was \$1 years old when he was elected. Hamilton

for a cett.

for a

nor fity years beside the old test. He is a tail, spars man, a great joker, a five mechanic, and hears a striking resemblance to the like President Lincoln. He is an accomplished card player, and proud of his Massachusetts linence. Bill liveks sorain, from the other side of latient Bridge, and is better Rowen as the "Westchester Gamerock" by his fellow mechanics, by whom les is much helice and in better Rowen as the "Westchester Gamerock" by his fellow mechanics, by whom les is much helice (lapt. Nathan Wholply, a carpenter and the greatest hower of timber in the Eastern States, and a very pious min. Brother Whelely was Aze-hamile Smith's right hand man, since 1851 the third tain has made in the state than heart and he sice of the third tain heart and the strength of the since the since he was making shoring wheels, the reused that he was making shoring wheels. This reused the irrest he blockmakers who lowed upon this as an intrusion upon their trade, and they are determined to defeat him. But the "Gamerock" may land; at them. The pomers fred meeting and tails also, but rather than he should go to Scatta America and startbushues at Fernamburo, and from the tast that he is a boss liner. Hely will stak to him. Printed cards having shelf in these will stak to him. Printed cards having shelf in these as "Stand by the Old Hell," "Cane Shew Meet," south America to the Front." Sirek Yast, Old Pernamburo." Remember Axehantle Shuth. "No secring Wheel to Ours!" and so on, are ready to be circulated as the Jour approaches. Red candidates an averable to rune the old bell as it was lever rune before the second to the winding the best of the will say while the kempths of the trouback desire free will say Massachusetts' laverite say in the charge of the will say Massachusetts' laverite say in the charge of the will say Massachusetts' haverite say in the charge of the will say Massachusetts' have itte say in the proposition of the mechanics in the say and say the present in person. On Bella.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The estabchment of the Insutute of Heredity is a step in the right irection. The improvement of the human race can only a arromphished on scientific principles. It has always seen a matter of surprise to me that so much money been a matter of surprise to me that so much money should have been expended and so much attention given to the improvement of the breed of horses, cattle, pigs, positive, and so on, while so lattle is done to improve the positive of the present day immediate money of the present day immediate. The present day immediate, and the present day of the filest," and to preserve the motion.

Let the institute be successing. I filter is mothing unreasonable to the supposition that at some interesting the time world with a project by beings as far apperied to man as man is to the age, and possessed of as many more senses than their as man now has more than the overesting the control.

Electrical William Tolley.

From the Kingson Freeman. William F. Tolley, the bookkeeper at James O. Meritiva aince on Wall account is an electrical marvel.

Mr. Joley is so this ad infection; that when he shots across a carpet, even with his books on, he can table the graw with his fingers, and when a person tuckers like three or an ear with their fingers a shock is received in the arm and a bright spars is emitted.

SUPPOSE GARFIELD SHOULD DIE?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: If James A. Garfield were to die prior to the opening of the certificates forwarded by the electors to the President of the Senate, who would be the President of the United States after March 4, 1881? Would it be Chester A. Arthur, or uld it be Windeld Scott Hancock 7

If a President should die at any moment,

after taking the oath of office, it is of course unquestionable that his place and functions would devolve on the Vice-President. Whether this would be the case if a President elect died in the interim between the counting of the votes in the presence of both Houses of Congress and the expiration of his predecessor's term may be open to some doubt. The Constitution says that the "Vice-President" shall succeed in the event of the "President's" death. In the contingency supposed, however, there would be no President, but only a deceased President elect, at the time when the Vice-President was himself sworn into office. How could the latter take by devolution that which was a more expectancy, and had never actually vested in the President elect? And again, if such an expectancy can pass by devolution, we must conceive it to have passed, at the moment of the President elect's decease, to a man who was himself merely Vice-President elect, was not as yet even Vice-President, and who, therefore, scarcely seems to satisfy the definition of the Constitution. It is possible, however, that a court might hold that for the purposes of taking the Presidential office by devolution, a Vice-President elect is a Vice-President from the moment he has been designated, in accordance with the Twelfth Amendment, as the future occupant of the office. We may here recall a rule of law in analogous circumstances, viz., that when a mother dies before the birth of her child, and the latter is brought forth by the Casarean operation, the child is considered in existence before its birth, so far as concerns its right to take the estate of the mother by descent. But whatever may be said of a Vice-Presi-

and stead of a person lawfully designated as President elect, but who dies between such lesignation and the taking of the oath of office. this is not the quandary to which we would now direct attention. Let us assume that a nominee dies subsequent to the Presidential election in November, subsequent even to the meeting and voting of the Presidential electors in December. but prior to the opening of the certificates by the President of the Senate in the presence of both Houses of Congress. How in such a case shall the votes be counted, and who shall be declared President of the United States? Shall the votes cast for a deceased individual be treated as so many blanks, or is a dead man a person in the sense of the Constitution which declares that "the person having the greatest number of votes for President shall be the Pres ident," provided, of course, "such number be a majority of the whole number of electors apointed?" Is it not clear that certificates bearing the name of a historical or fletitious peronage, or of a man recently deceased, while they would have to be technically registered at the counting of the votes, would be entirely inoperative as regards determining the Sesigna tion of a President? No law is so interpreted as to impose on any tribunal an act essentially futile and absurd. Just such an act, however would be the designation of a dead man to be the President of the United States.

dent's right to become President in the place

It may be argued, however, that the election of a President is substantially concluded when the electors have met on the same day in their respective States, and, after voting, have recorded their votes in sealed certificates; that the subsequent opening of the certificates, the counting of the votes, and the announcement of the result are merely parts of a declaratory act. Such a doctrine finds no support in the language of the Constitution. Neither in the original text (Section I., Article II.) nor in the Twelfth Amendment is any cognizance taken of a re putedly successful candidate for the Presidency such a candidate, in other words, has no lega existence-until the functions explicitly imposed upon the President of the Senate and the two Houses of Correshave been performed.

The notion that so functions are purely declaratory cannot be reconciled with the right. repeatedly affirmed, to reject certificates for de fects upon their face; much less with the right,

often asserted but sometimes questioned, of going behind the face of the certificates and investigating the facts which they purport to at-In a word, the declaratory theory seems to find as little sanction in the spirit as in the letter of our Federal organic law, has never been recognized in the practical interpretation that law, and would undoubtedly be repud ated by both of the existing political parties.

Coming to present circumstances, we ask what would follow in the event of Garfield's decease before the counting of the votes of the Presidential electors. Would it not be the plain duty of the tribunal to declare, first, that such and such a number of votes had been cast for an individual deceased; secondly, that the only living man, that is to say, the only "person," in the sense of the Constitution, who had received electoral votes was Winfield Scott Hancock : but thirdly, that Hancock having failed to obtain a majority of the whole number of electoral votes, the election of a President devolved upon the House of Representatives? Would there be any alternative course open in the case

supposed? This would be obviously a question not of moral and equitable claims, but of legal powers and duties. At first sight, no doubt, the great majority of both political parties would be disposed to think that Arthur should succeed to all of Garfield's rights in the event of the latter's all of Garneid's rights in the event of the latter's death at any time after the meeting and voting of the Presidential electors in their respective States. A glance, however, at the above extracts from our organic law will show that such a substitution is, to say the least, extremely disputable, and that the specified contingency is one of several for which, curiously enough, the Constitution has made no distinct, explicit provision.

M. W. H.

What an ex.Prisoner for Debt Says.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In all our country there is no such iniquitous place as Ludlow street jail. Any unscrupulous creditor can charge his able to furnish bonds satisfactory to the Sheriff. On a charge of traud, I spent three months in its baleful in NEW YORK, Jan. 29.

Elevated Crosswalks.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Broadon, and Chambers streets are so blocked by vehicles, ven on dull days and in summer as well as in winter that find passes ignes grows them at the rise of their lives. Everythely knows it, some to their secrow. Therefore I would angered that the Board of Ablestmen construct the saled passage ways or meat design, once the afrect, with two pairs of easy steps on each able of the afrect, at convenient points, especially at the ferries and the inscious of prominent streets.

A Southern Fish Story. From the Sammah News.

A remarkable droumating in connection with the recent cold man was the effect on the field a right cross, large allows being travel or show any or and expenditure of the field and the result for the result of the the fish particularly base said from were observed to brow themselves hooliy out of the water of latel. An old begree result thirty one very fire large base in this way at Raccoon Key, near Warsaw. On all Catherine's a net thrown in the water was almost instantly filled by fine large fish, and dishersion found some difficulty in histing this one on. Others were observed in kill their in the water with ours. This movel occurrence was set, massed generally all adoug the islands to the southward and in the rivers hear the const.

Bob Taylor's Bow.

From the Washington National Republican. The Hon. Robert Taylor of the First Tennessee District, who in the estantimal contrains his state yeaterday, serviced that were nices of five more than any other cambilate, is sand to be the champion. Bother of the House of Berresentatives. It is related by his defeated Democratic promote that during the Congressional cambiant and with hard were to held the work mind for the House in the strong specifics; but when the latter produced his Common and soils the more montain air with that won string time. The Arksman Traveller, the recognized that he was bester even before the voice were counted.

The very best Using to do with a cold or a bad cough is to get rid of it as soon as possible, and you have a safe ramiedy for the nursons in Dr. Jayne's Expectorant for bearly half a century a popular long medicine. —4ds.

SUNBEAMS.

The criticism in St. Louis upon Sarah -Lord Wentworth, Byron's grandson, is

ery unaitractive in appearance and manner The Oxford Election Commissioners stignatize Mr. Thomas, Tutor of St. Alban Hail, as one of the

vorst bribers. # - Twenty-six more Creek Indian boys and irls have just been received at the Government

The total amount of sales under the Encumbered Estates act in Iroland exceeds \$200 00000.
The net came into operation thirty-one years ago.

-Through the efforts of Dr. Keane, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Richmond, almost every seller of intexicating drinks of that faith has given by pledge not to sell on Sunday.

-The will of Mr. Mark Firth, who has given hundreds of thousands of pounds away on works of beneficence at Sheffield, England, has been proved under \$3,000,000 personalty. -The Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain re-

ceived a letter from Dublin, in an educated hand, threat ening him with death on the part of "our Loyal Vehin-gericht" if he opposed the Coercion bill. With the object of raising the morals of the French army, Gen. Parre has ordered that a picture representing the most glorious deed accomplished by

The total value of England's imports for 1880 was 1409,930,000, an increase of about 140,000 mg over 1879. Living animals were imported to the value of £10,242,000. The number of eggs imported was 747, 412,440, worth £2,241,300

each regiment since 1790, shall be hung on the walls o

-The ex-Khedive of Egypt, Ismail Pasha, before leaving Bome last month, placed a wreath of flowers on the tomb of Victor Emanuel in the Pantheon. The wreath bere this inscription: "From Ismail Pasha the great King, Victor Emanuel.

-In a Harvard street Baptist church neeting in Boston a speaker was hissed by some women le reforted: "Snukes and geese hiss by nature, and sol don't know as I blame you." Some of the brethren con demned him as an insulter of the sisters, and great dis-

boys of Heileville, Ind., for the purpose of sawing uprailread iron into chunks and selling it to jouk men They raised a capital or \$6, with which they bought some tools, and began operations. One rati had not been prepared for market, however, before the shareholders were all arrested. The concern is insolvent. The glass manufacturing interest of Ohio orms in itself no inconsiderable element in the prosperity

-A stock company was formed by seven

of the State. The following counties are officially recog nized as the glass sections. Belmont, Franklin, Jefferson, Licking, Muskingum, and Portage. In this section there are thirty-two furnaces, Belmont County having fifteen and Portage six. The value of glass manufactured yearly eggregates over \$3,000,000. Once a week each pupil of the Lycce Louis le-trand gives one son to certain pupils who are charged with collecting this subscription. The sum thus collected is devoted to the education of a poor boy whose

crives the same education as his companions, and sub-scribes his sou as they do. The processer, the numeric, and one other person alone are in the secret of this liscreet charity. -The long illness which preceded 8othern's death seriously disarranged the Dieatrical business in the United States. Time was reserved for him in all the large cities, and, as he would be sure to draw well; he appeared, no other engagements were made until the latest possible moment. Travelling combinations ther rushed in to fill the sape, abandoning the smaller town

situation is enveloced in the greatest mystery. He re

in which they had contracted to appear. Thus plan were upset right and left. -The London Jewish World says: "A statement has been published in several journals to the effect that "the Jews of London have recognized the services of the late George Ellot to the Hebrew race by offering up prayers for the repose of her soul.' Although the Jews generally gratefully acknowledge the liberal mentiments expressed by George Eliot in her works toward Jews and Judaism, no such prayers at

tated have been offered up in any synagogue The simplest Post Office in the world is Magellan Straits, and has been established there for one years past. It consists of a small cask, which is chained to the rock of the extreme cape in the strain opposite Tierra dei Fuego. Each passing ship sends a boat to open the cask and to take letters out and place others into it. The Post Office is self-acting therefore; if is under the protection of the navies of all nations, and

up to the present there is not one case to report in which any abuse of the privileges it affords has taken place. —Each county in Texas has received a donation of four leagues of land to constitute a fund for the support of county academies or hich schools. This provision was made in the early legislation of the State, and many of the counties now have a fund of from \$25,000 to \$600,000, but the interest has never been used except to said in the support of public schools, which was not the ntention of the endowment. The Secretary of the State

Board of Education now demands that each county establish an academy at some central point with this fund. It is remarkable that the working classes of Germany have taken little part in the anti-Jewish agitation. At a stormy meeting in Borlin the other day. in which the Jews were denounced as a people "unfit is mix with other races," a workman had the courage if state that "after seventeen years' hard work in Berlio, lthough a Christian himself, his experience was the Jewish employers had, as a rule, treated him (ar better than his coreligionists. He accordingly proposed a resolution "in taxor of religious liberty." The result was that the meeting hissed him and torned him out

-A reporter of the Cleveland Leader was travelling by rail in Dakota during the recent cold susp. This, he says, is what the enrincer wore. One rid woolles wrapper, heavy quality; one white woollen wrapper, heavy quality, one she whose and warm; one red woollen wrapper, beavy quality, one red woollen wrapper. per beavy quality; one red w ollen undershirt, heavy quality, one bine Mackinaw blouse, very heavy; five pairs of heavy flannel drawers one pair of Mackinse breeches, two pairs of heavy wooden stockings, one pair f German socks, one pair of arctics, one heavy fur can two pairs of warm lined gloves, one pair of mittens for utdoor emergencies.

.- The extreme frost of Dec. 30 played sad haves with the grange orchards of Florida, that of Mr Harriet Receiver Stowe being denuded or all its lupid truit. The orchards of greatest value are scattered along the St. John's River from Jack sonville down. Mrs. Slowe's being twelve inlies south of the city. The Dummit grow which last year yielded \$55,000 oranges, which I owner sold for \$13,600 cash, situated in the eastern part of the State, has just been purchased by the Diacolas-tellucia of Italy, owner of extensive groves in Solid The grove comprises about 100 acres, and has 8 200 leafing trees. The Sicily granges yield trult in tourteen tears from the time the seed sprouts, and will hear for fit of sixty years, while the Flurida oranges will produce that in eight years, and survive about half a century. In the past ten years there have been 900,000 new orange best set out, or wild trees reclaimed, in Florida, and planted tenow going on at the rate of 00,000 per year. There are millions of wild or sour trees in the State, which are rapidly being transformed into sweet ones by engration wert hade in the body of sour trunks.

-Of the original east of "Our American Courtn' at Laura Keene's Theatre in 1858, E. A. S. the.
Laura Keene, and Mary Wells, respectively the Passes. Pheroce, and Mrs. Monochemispins, are dead. Joseph in-terson, the Ass Transland has become wently as well at fathous as Rip. Van Worlds. Milnes Levies, the father Transa, is well known in Shaaraparresh and maked parts, and was lainly at the Fitth Avenue Towar of leading supporter of Mary Anderson. It w. Could be the Abd Morrow, is a member of the Madison equipe The the Assi Mercel, is a member of the Madison Squire Thise tre company, and has for a year acted the circle mode character to "Hazer Kirke" Edwin Vary, the 19 Limited Freechand, is with the Union Squary travelled company, in similar dignified parts, but if a Burnett the Cope, has dratted off into low consents. Effectively, the Aspects, is at Wallock's, and Sara Stevens, the Merchith, was quite recently on the stace in Boson the Merchib, was quite recently on the stage in Boson, 12 accords was Sofferin's wife, from which he so a file ward parted. The nolless how suggest a condition's strong cast, but it should be forme in mind that the left. ormers were then young in the profession, and some if iem had acquired great expellence or r President Noah Porter says that he met

icorgo Rilot in Loudon in 1853, where she was a would at years old, with plain but interesting learness 1.3 title above medical size, of a very quiet and a medical discount. marries must noticeable for her sings) my refused with . She was then overworked at trapelal of words Form the formal, and was commonly crossed and Porter Transmisers once being greatly soons at Merher, after beyong come late to the broadlest take being lost almost atone, give way by a model of all during which the tears flowed in arready has be yet gentle race. As to be runt in trival as soon shown in her later writing horself a life, we are told, she's will at the a title fluences. But she mover could cease to be cheered by the light that his that tending flected radiance. How she came to be serious of ethical inclument which must be eaddened even if they lengthere a large Lingband coase for I agnostic through of Helbert S. court, or to taith in immortality, under the guidance England could never produce another deerse either sentiment or imagination